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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of:

Stewart D. Lyman and
M. Patricia Beckmann

Attorney Docket No.: 2813-L

Serial No.: 08/994,468

Art Unit: 1633

Filed: December 19, 1997

Examiner: J. Kerr

CPA Filed: May 26, 2000

For: MEDIUM CONTAINING FLT3 LIGAND FOR CULTURING
HEMATOPOIETIC CELLS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action (paper no. 16), having a mailing date of May 23, 2001, Applicants respectfully submit the following response. A Petition for a two-month extension of time and requisite fee are included extending the date of response from August 23, 2001 to October 23, 2001. In view of the following amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

Kindly amend the subject application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium comprising a cell growth medium and flt3-ligand, wherein the flt3-ligand binds flt3 and is in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion.

2. (Three Times Amended) An *in vitro* method for expanding hematopoietic cells comprising contacting the cells with flt3-ligand, wherein the flt3-ligand binds flt3 and is in an amount sufficient to cause expansion of the hematopoietic cells.

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